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1930

1830

CENTENNIAL YEAR

1930

AUXILIARY GUIDE NUMBER FOR DECEMBER

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

# MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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*"Is not God good? Then you be good; if He is faithful, then you be faithful. Add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, and seek for every good thing."*—JOSEPH SMITH.

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## A VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

MRS. REED SMOOT

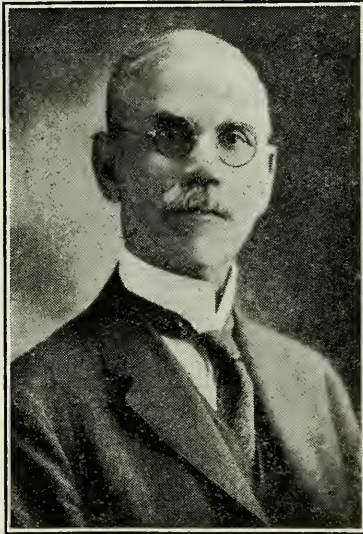
OF THE PRIMARY ASSOCIATION GENERAL BOARD

(NOTE: The White House is the residence of the President of the United States, a mansion of great beauty and one of the finest official residences of the world. At the time Apostle and Sister Reed Smoot were married last summer, a special session of the United States Congress was called by President Herbert Hoover, to consider the London Naval Treaty. Elder Smoot, who is the United States Senator from Utah, is one of the stalwarts of the Senate. Sister Smoot's mother was a convert to "Mormonism," and with her children left her native country many years ago to mingle with the people of her adoption in a far-off land. Senator Smoot's mother was a convert from Norway, who also left her native land for the Gospel's sake. That their descendants should have the experience here given makes a fascinating story. We congratulate them.—EDITORS.)

Having just returned home from Washington, where I was a guest of President and Mrs. Herbert Hoover at the White House, I have been requested to write a brief description of my experiences. It is one of the most difficult things I have ever been asked to do, and for a number of reasons. In the first place, I was the guest of the head of one of the greatest countries on earth, and a guest is not supposed to talk. In the next, place by being a guest of the President and Mrs. Hoover, my honeymoon plans were very definitely changed. In the third place, if I gave a true expression of my feelings, I should undoubtedly use too many superlatives.

To appreciate my feelings as an honoured guest of the President of the United States and the first lady of the land, you must know that I came to Salt Lake City as a little girl from England, one member of a family of six, my widowed mother having become a convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Can you imagine any little girl, coming across the ocean and almost the width of the United States as a little emigrant, dreaming that she would ever become the wife of a senator of the United States, a man who has for many years distinguished himself in both nation and Church? Is it not beyond the realm of imagination for such a girl to see herself, with her distinguished husband, the honoured guest of the head of the United States Government?

We had decided to spend our honeymoon on a trip to Hawaii. All our plans had been made before Senator Smoot received word from President Hoover that he might aid in combating



SENATOR REED SMOOT

an attack on the London Naval Treaty, a definite policy of the Hoover administration. The President in his graciousness requested the Senator and myself to be guests at the White House. Regardless of that invitation, the wish of the President of the United States would have been considered a command. We went as fast as possible, and at times the two weeks there seem almost a dream.

It is needless to say that every dignified, sweet, graceful thing that could be done to make our stay pleasant, was done. When we reached Washington, one of the President's cars took us immediately to the White House. We were presented to Mrs. Hoover and assigned to the Rose Room suite. It is hardly neces-

sary to say that President and Mrs. Hoover are probably the best educated, most traveled, and best read occupants the White House has ever had. While dignity marks every thing they do, good taste and the homely virtues of real Americanism are always apparent. To illustrate: The first thing President and Mrs. Hoover did was to give a wedding breakfast in our honour at which the only other guests present were the Senator's and my children. This breakfast was served on the front porch of the White House. It will long be remembered. Can you

imagine the thoughtfulness which made the first function in our honour a sort of family affair which permitted us the opportunity to receive the congratulations and best wishes of those most dear to us? I shall never forget that breakfast and the enjoyment of sitting on that porch looking out on one of the most beautiful parks in the country and having come to my mind the thought of the distinguished hosts and guests who had occupied these same places over many, many years of different administrations. Do you wonder at the temptation to use superlatives?

The breakfast carried into luncheon, which was served for President and Mrs. Hoover, Senator Smoot and myself. After luncheon I had an opportunity to get acquainted with the Rose Room suite, which is located on the second floor of the White House and consists of two rooms and bath. The furniture is upholstered in rose brocaded satin.

The high-back chairs and quaint old canopied bed, once occupied by Andrew Jackson, seventh President of the United States, are in this suite. The drapes are of rose satin. In fact practically everything is rose in colour, even to the blotters and pencils upon the writing desk. A few pictures of interesting scenes are hung on the walls, and the rooms were a veritable bower of pink roses, fresh ones being brought each morning and arranged by the house attendants.

I rested until four-thirty in the afternoon when Mrs. Hoover entertained in my honour, and I had the great pleasure of meeting some of the most charming women in the United States including Mrs. William H. Borah of Idaho; Mrs. Brown, wife of the Postmaster General; Mrs. Dale, wife of the Senator from Vermont; Mrs. Dolly Gann, sister and hostess to the Vice President; Mrs. Hyde, wife of the Secretary of Agriculture; Mrs. Stimson, wife of the Secretary of State; and Mrs. Wilbur, wife of the Secretary of the Interior.

Dinners in the White House are formal affairs. At my first dinner in the White House, the program of guests was most imposing. President Hoover escorted me, and Senator Smoot escorted Mrs. Hoover. During the course of the dinner, I had the privilege of telling the President of some of the work that



MRS. REED SMOOT



is being done by our Church and particularly by the Primary Association in which I have been interested, particularly in our programs commemorating "Child Health Day." The movement to celebrate May first as "Child Health Day" was inaugurated by President Hoover himself.

After dinner we were entertained with moving pictures of the Byrd expedition to the South Pole. We then conversed until about eleven o'clock when the President and Mrs. Hoover left, expressing pleasure that we had been guests. So ended the first glorious day.

The days that followed were fully occupied. Luncheons and dinners, shopping, driving, walking; and the best part of it was always being surrounded by persons of note and our loved ones. The memory of some of the drives I had with Mrs. Hoover through beautiful Rockcreek Park and some of those with members of our families into Virginia for luncheon at some quaint and charming inn, will never leave my mind. There were days when I would go to the Senate and meet Senator Smoot and have luncheon with him. I was constantly meeting distinguished men and women who told me the most pleasant things about the man with whom I was having a honeymoon. They praised his integrity and loyalty, and marveled at his capacity for work.

All this made a very great impression on me, knowing that about twenty-eight years before, there was a tremendous fight to keep the Senator from taking his seat—and to-day he is known and admired nationally and internationally.

The head of the greatest business on earth is the President of the United States, and he is perhaps the hardest worked man in the world. The White House is not only the President's residence, but the clearing house of every interest of importance to the hundred and twenty-two million people in the United States.

One of the most interesting things to me was the perfect order in which the White House is administered. One is requested to be present at dinner, is informed in advance whom she is going to be seated next to, and items which will be of common interest are mentioned. Mrs. Hoover is an ideal hostess. Not a detail escapes her. There is no pretense in the White House under its present direction. Simplicity, order, graciousness prevail. While there, we frequently had breakfast on the large front porch with the President and Mrs. Hoover and Mrs. Stark McMullan, of Palo Alto, California, who was also a White House guest. After the first morning, when it was found that the Senator and I did not use tea or coffee, milk was added to the menu. And furthermore, I did not see a single woman smoke while I was in the White House.

One of the interesting things that usually followed dinner was the serving of new varieties of fresh fruit from the Burbank

Experimental Farm of California. One evening, I took what I thought was a plum and found that it contained the stone of a peach and had the flavour of a pear.

Our trip to the President's Camp on the Rapidan River, a motor ride of one hundred miles from the White House, was of tremendous interest to me. The reason Senator Smoot and I were guests was that the London Naval Treaty was to come up at the special session of Congress. That treaty had its inception when President Hoover and Prime Minister McDonald of Great Britain spent some days at the Rapidan Camp. With the treaty a practically accomplished fact, Rapidan Camp must always be of historical importance, not only as a summer residence of the President of the United States, but because of the treaty involving the principal of great governments of the world. Among those present at the President's Camp while we were there were President and Mrs. Hoover, Secretary of Navy Patrick Hurley, Senators Allen of Kansas, Thomas of Idaho, Vandenburg of Michigan, and Hebart of Rhode Island, Commander Boon, the President's physician, Congresswoman Mrs. Rogers of Massachusetts, Mrs. Stark McMullan, and Mr. William Wilde, noted press correspondent. Most of these guests had visited Utah and were familiar with the wonders of the scenery here. They were interested in asking questions and in talking about their experiences while in this state.

In concluding this article, I can say that in all my life I never met a more charming and gracious hostess than Mrs. Hoover. She is never idle; is fully alive to everything that is going on; can pick up a bit of fancy work and carry out her own designs. One interesting design that I saw for a plaque, was from her own sketch of the Washington Monument in cherry-blossom time.

—From the *Improvement Era*, October, 1930, pages 791-4.

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## JOSEPH'S FIRST YEAR OF LEADERSHIP

(JOSEPH SMITH SKETCHES—No. 11)

THE Church of Jesus Christ was organized; Joseph had been called and sustained to be its leader; he bore now the responsibility of carrying the message of salvation to the whole world.

How this humble youth, nutried in the affairs of men, performed the new labour is marvelous; it is one of the great miracles of the Restoration.

There was no delay. Within twenty-four hours, he arranged for regular meetings of the Church members. The first meeting was called for April 11th, 1830, the Sunday following the day of organization, and for all following Sundays, as a regular practice of the Church. The simple service of prayer, song and discourse was instituted; the Sacrament was administered; and baptismal

services often followed the meetings, for many were becoming convinced of the truth of Joseph's message.

Conferences of the Church were also instituted. The first was called for June, and the next for late September, 1830. These feasts of spiritual things have ever since been continued semi-annually, in the Church.

As a true leader, Joseph used his associates fully in the work. Oliver Cowdery preached the first discourse in the Church on April 11th, 1830, and Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer performed many of the early baptisms.

Within a fortnight of the organization, when the needs of the Saints had been provided for, Joseph turned his attention to missionary work. He set the pace and showed the way for his associates. Therefore, he undertook the first missionary journey of the Church to his friends, Joseph Knight and family, who shortly joined the Church.

Then, upon his return, he sent the brethren out to teach the joyful news of the Restoration, among them members of his own family, his father and brothers. Within a few weeks, the missionary activity of the Church, now notable in the world, was under way.

Missionary work was increased, when in October, 1830, a group of the brethren were sent to the Lamanites, or Indians, whose record the Book of Mormon is, to preach the Gospel to them. It was this missionary group which found many persons waiting for the truth in Kirtland, Ohio, later the headquarters of the Church.

In the midst of these strenuous labours, the Prophet endured severe persecution. Upon his first missionary journey to Mr. Knight, the evil one, enraged at the coming forth of the truth of God, filled whomever he could with unholy purposes. Joseph was twice arrested, in near succession, imprisoned, and his life threatened. The courts released him; nevertheless, these arrests were the first of about a half hundred during his life, from all of which he was discharged, as no fault could be found against him. The First Elder in the Church of Christ was traveling a thorny road.

In the midst of persecution and opposition, the Lord remained Joseph's friend. The labours of the Prophet and of other members of the Church were attended with much success. Spiritual power accompanied the ministrations of the Priesthood. During Joseph's first mission to Mr. Knight after the organization of the Church, a remarkable miracle, the casting out of evil spirits, often called the first miracle in the Church, occurred, before many witnesses, and to the convincing of the honest in heart and the angering of others.

The evil one also inspired members of the Church with doubt and weakness, to defeat the purposes of the Almighty. But the

young leader was able to surmount all obstacles. As an example, his close colleague and fellow witness to the work, Oliver Cowdery, was displeased with a statement in one of the revelations received by Joseph, and wrote the Prophet "in the name of God to erase those words." The Prophet's reply reveals him the firm believer in his mission, the unyielding defender of the message committed to him. He asked in answer, by what authority Oliver Cowdery took upon himself to command erasures or alterations in revelations from Almighty God! Joseph acted by divine authority and by none other. He was the First Elder, and believed in his mission.

The labours of organization, proselyting, preaching and resisting the attacks of the enemy would seem enough for the time and strength of one man. But, Joseph did more.

The progress of the work raised many problems. To solve these the Prophet enquired of the Lord, and in answer received during the year twenty-five important revelations, embodying far reaching instructions for the Church and individuals.

During the year Joseph undertook, also, the revision of the Scriptures, that is the correction, under inspiration, of the errors that have crept into the holy books during the numerous translations and transcriptions to which they have been subjected.

While this latter work was going on, portions of two of the "lost scriptures" were revealed to him, namely, the Book of Moses and the Book of Enoch. These are among the choicest possessions of the Church, complete in structure and quality, and comparable to the highest inspiration from the Prophet, therefore, remembering that this was during his early ministry, an evidence of his divine inspiration.

The work prospered in Kirtland, Ohio, while persecution raged in New York State. Joseph was inspired to move, with the people, to Kirtland, and to establish the Church there. This large labour was accomplished successfully. In late January, 1831, ten months after the organization of the Church, and after most of the members had been moved there, he and family settled in Kirtland. The will of the Lord had been obeyed, and the young Church was rising out of obscurity.

While this was going on in the East, the missionaries to the Lamanites were traveling westward to the borders of the State of Missouri. Even while the Church was being established at Kirtland, provisions were being made for its future expansion in the West, in Missouri, the place of the ultimate city of Zion.

Twelve months after the organization of the Church, the First Elder, the young Prophet, could look back upon large accomplishments. The internal organization and procedure of the Church had been perfected; missionary work was vigorously under way; hundreds had been baptized into the Church, among them many

*(Continued on page 793)*



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1930

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### EDITORIAL

## EUROPEAN MISSION PRESIDENTS IN CONFERENCE

THE illustration on another page of this issue shows the presidents with their wives, of the European Missions of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, assembled in conference at Basel, Switzerland, the headquarters of the Swiss-German Mission. Bishop John Wells and Elder Arthur Winter were present during the two last sessions of the Conference, but came too late to be included in the picture. Brother and Sister Don Mack Dalton of the South African Mission, which is included in the European Mission, were debarred from attending the Conference because of the travel distance.

Eleven missions constitute the European group: Armenian, British, Czecho-Slovak, Danish, French, German-Austrian, Netherlands, Norwegian, South African, Swedish and Swiss-German. The membership of these missions, steadily increasing, is about thirty thousand. There are more than seven hundred and fifty full time, voluntary missionaries in the European field. Each mission has a periodical publication in its own language, resembling the *Millennial Star*, all of which bear the title "Star," with some suitable modifying word. Literature explaining the Gospel in the various languages is available and is being increased. The Book of Mormon is now being printed in the Czech language.

The presidents of these missions meet periodically to learn from and to inspire one another and to plan for the progress of the work. These gatherings give to each mission the benefit of the wisdom of all, and they provide means by which all the missions may coordinate their work to conform with the general Church programs. It is very important in the Church of Christ, that doctrine, ideals, methods of work and all important procedure be uniform among the Saints, everywhere. Any differences should be in the applications of eternal principles to existing needs. Therefore, the same organizations, similar study courses and identical teachings are found in the wards or branches of the Church, the world over, irrespective of location or language. There is only one Church of Christ.

There are no more faithful and devoted men and women than those in the presidencies of the European Missions.

The Basel Conference, held from June 18th-28th, 1930, was of great importance to the welfare of the work of the Lord in Europe. Its refreshing influence is already being felt.—W.



## JOSEPH'S FIRST YEAR OF LEADERSHIP

*(Concluded from page 791)*

notable persons; an abiding place for the Saints had been found and occupied, and another one was in prospect; revelations clearing up errors of the past and bringing joy to the Saints had been received; lost scriptures had been restored, and old scriptures were being freed from error; and amidst the persecution and toil of the days, the Lord honoured His servants, miracles were performed, and the peace of certain knowledge grew within the hearts of the people.

Joseph had been chosen leader; he had shown himself possessed of leadership; the Lord had blessed him for the work. The first year of the Church is the most marvelous in its history; it epitomizes all the succeeding years, and shows Joseph Smith as a leader capable of doing the mighty work of the latter days.—W.

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### RELIEF SOCIETY

SLOGAN: "We Stand for a Greater Appreciation of Our Centennial Year by Looking for Others' Virtues."

A person can usually find that for which he is looking; if he seeks the good and beautiful, he will find them; but he will not be disappointed in his quest if he searches for the bad and distasteful.

Two men once took a long journey together through many distant lands. One enjoyed the tour; he appreciated the beauties of nature. He was thrilled at the sight of wood and meadow, of mountain and valley; he saw the blueness of the sea, the glorious tints of the setting sun on the desert, and marveled at the vastness of the starlit heavens. He closely associated the Almighty with all His creations, and received happiness from living.

The other man was miserable, for his view consisted of dead trees, weeds and bare mountain crags. He saw only water and parched sand. The coldness and darkness of space chilled him. Joy was not his, and never could be, until his attitude towards the things of the world and the universe is changed. He was a true pessimist, soured because of his point of view.

The journey among our fellowmen is the same. Those who see only evil or ill are always unhappy and dejected. But Latter-day Saints believe in the innate goodness of the children of God. By appreciating the uplifting characteristics of their associates, they tend to adopt the same for their own improvement and development. Evil is thus crowded out by the good. Happiness fills their lives, and they are better fitted to serve their God.

The Saviour was the only perfect mortal. He realized the weaknesses of His Apostles when He chose them. It took them a

long time to understand the mission of their Lord; but He, with unequalled patience, laboured with them unceasingly, until the time came for Him to leave them.

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TEACHER TOPIC FOR DECEMBER: Real Joy—"Men are that they might have joy."

Central Theme: The joy easiest to obtain, and most lasting and beneficial, is had from being diligent in the service of the Lord.

A. By serving the Lord, we build ourselves up physically, mentally and spiritually.

I. The Gospel principles embody features essential to gaining spiritual peace on earth and a place in the presence of the Lord hereafter.

a. It teaches us the nature of true religion (Jas. 1: 27).

b. The power of faith (Mk. 11: 24), repentance (I John 1: 8-9), baptism (John 3: 5), and the Holy Ghost (Mt. 12: 31), form its foundation.

c. The pre-mortal life, the present existence and the hereafter are explained.

II. We learn to properly feed ourselves from such teachings as the Word of Wisdom.

a. By the word of the Lord in the Bible (I Corin. 3: 16-17) and in modern scripture (Doc. and Cov. 38: 8), the sanctity of the human body is made clear.

1. To an obedient child of God, this sort of conduct and learning is part of the real joy of life.

B. In following the teachings of the Great Master to the best of our ability, we help others to improve.

I. The second greatest commandment is to love our neighbours as ourselves.

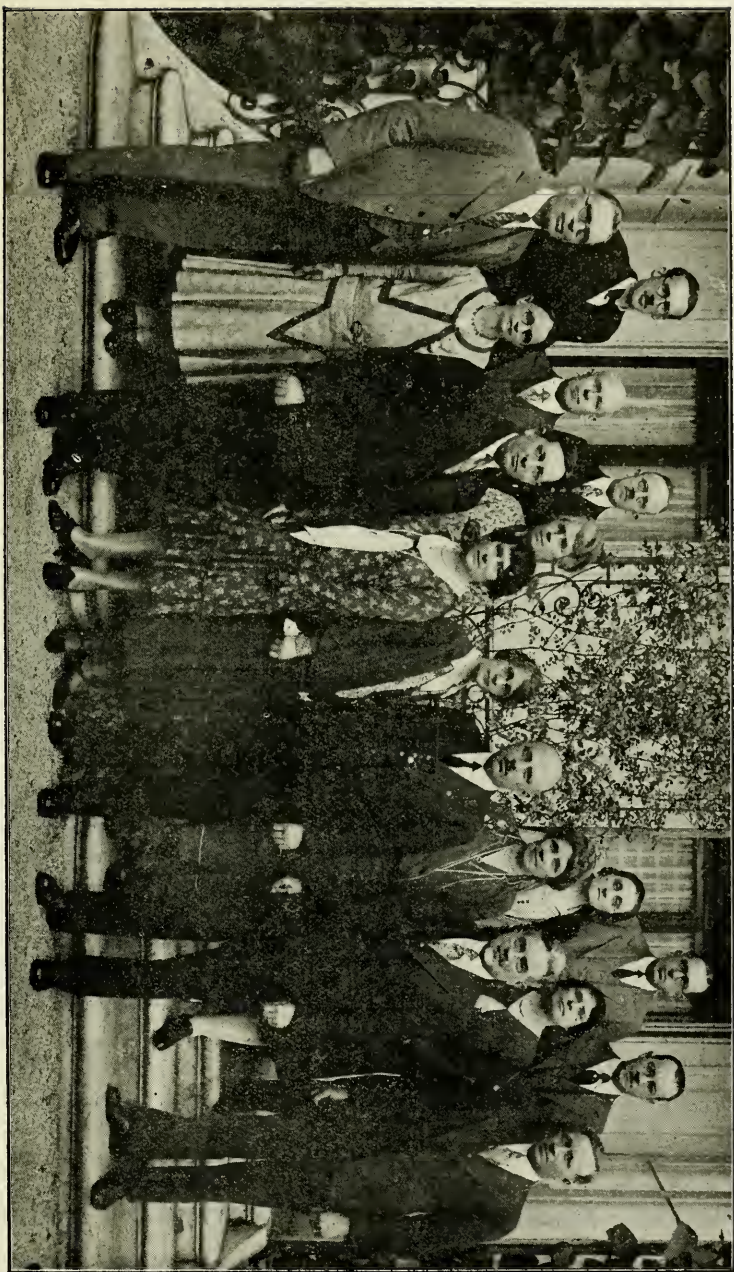
a. If we truly strive for self improvement in every respect, others will follow our leadership.

1. By so doing, more of the real joy of life will be ours.

J. B. L.

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THE Mission Presidents of the European Missions in the picture on the opposite page are, left to right, front row: President and Sister Hyrum D. Jensen of the Norwegian Mission, President and Sister A. William Lund of the British Mission, Sister and President Fred Tadge of the Swiss-German Mission, Sister and President John A. Widtsoe of the European Mission, Sister and President Golden L. Woolf of the French Mission; second row, left: President and Sister Frank I. Kooyman of the Netherlands Mission; third row, left: President Arthur Gaeth of the Czecho-Slovak Mission and President Gideon N. Hulterstrom of the Swedish Mission; second row, right: Sister and President Edward P. Kimball of the German-Austrian Mission; third row, right: President Holger M. Larsen of the Danish Mission.



THE PRESIDENTS OF THE EUROPEAN MISSIONS IN CONFERENCE AT BASEL, SWITZERLAND, JUNE 18th-28th, 1930.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### SACRAMENT GEM FOR DECEMBER

Bless us, O Lord, for Jesus' sake ;  
 O may we worthily partake  
 These emblems of the flesh and blood  
 Of our Redeemer, Saviour, God.

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### CONCERT RECITATION FOR DECEMBER

#### (Thirteenth Article of Faith)

We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men : Indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and we hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.

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#### BOOK OF MORMON DEPARTMENT.

*December 7.* Lesson 43. Proper Subjects of Baptism. Text : Sunday School Lesson No. 43 ; Book of Mormon. Objective : To teach that the Book of Mormon has clarified the whole question of " who may be baptized."

The remaining lesson outlines for the month of December—Book of Mormon Department—have not been received, but will be published later.

#### OLD TESTAMENT DEPARTMENT.

*December 7.* Lesson 44. Job. Text : Sunday School Lesson No. 44 ; the Book of Job. Objective : To show that physical and mental suffering may both be greatly lessened by proper living, proper understanding, and by living in harmony with eternal truth.

*December 14.* (Open Sunday to catch up with lessons omitted on account of conferences or other causes.)

*December 21.* Review questions. See Sunday School leaflets.

*December 28.* Christmas exercises.

#### PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

*December 7.* A Picture Lesson. (See *The Instructor*, for September, and page 626 of the October number.)

*December 14.* Lesson 88. Jesus and John the Baptist. Text : Sunday School Lesson No. 88 ; Matt. 3 ; Mark 1 : 1-11 ; Luke 3 : 1-22 ; John 1 : 6-24 ; *Jesus the Christ*, pp. 121-127. Objective : Baptism by immersion is essential to salvation.

*December 21.* Lesson 89.—The Temptations of Christ. Text : Sunday School Lesson No. 89 ; Matt. 4 : 1-12 ; Mark 1 : 12, 13 ; Luke



4: 1-14; *Jesus the Christ*, pp. 127-135; Weed's *A Life of Christ for the Young*. Objective: The overcoming of obstacles gives strength.

December 28. (A Christmas Program.)

—From *The Instructor*, October, 1930.

## MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

### THE MEANING OF A NAME

IN THE educational field, a person's opportunities are greater if he graduates from a school with a "good name"—a good reputation. The people of the world attach a particular significance of importance to membership in a university old in years, well established, and which is capable of training its students well. This reputation, or prestige, only comes to organizations which are capable of maintaining a high standard of efficiency and work.

Good standing in the sight of God is obtained in the same way. There is but one church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that bears the name of the Lord, that teaches His doctrines in their fulness, that has His authority and sanction, and because of these reasons, is the only one able to take its adherents back into His presence. With the Lord, it is the only one that has "prestige."

In occupying this unique position, the Church of Jesus Christ employs auxiliary organizations to bring about its aim—salvation. One of these is called the Mutual Improvement Association. This organization is just what its name implies; it takes under its care the members of the Church, particularly the young men and the young women, and teaches them how to properly conduct themselves. It shows how to develop manhood and womanhood, and how to clear the way to improve conditions. The Mutual Improvement Association instructs its members in the worth of the Gospel, how to obtain the blessings it promises, and the place the Gospel should take in the lives of those who believe it.

Yes, there is something in a name, especially when an organization is all that its name implies. With regard to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it means that happiness and joy will be found therein, because of the fundamental principles for which it stands.

**SLOGAN:** "We Stand for Loyal Adherence to Latter-day Saint Ideals."

**LESSON TEXT:** "Modern Revelation."

**FIRST NIGHT.** Opening exercises. *Preliminary Program*—Slogan talk: Explain how you think ideals suitable for human

adoption may be found in the actions of the animals round about us. Have a five-minute report of current events, followed by a duet. *Lesson*—Chapter VII. “The Plan of Salvation.” Objective: To show that the atonement of Christ made available the gaining of eternal life, and that individual salvation is predicated upon the acceptance or rejection of that atonement.

**SECOND NIGHT** Opening exercises. *Preliminary Program*—Slogan talk: Tell what ideal you regard most highly in your associates. Have someone tell the history of a song; then have that song rendered as a solo. *Lesson*—Chapter VIII. “The Nature and History of Priesthood.” Objective: To show that present-day Priesthood in the Church is in accordance with that held by the prophets of old, and has come to us through the proper lines of authority.

**THIRD NIGHT.** Opening exercises. *Preliminary Program*—Slogan talk: Explain how a loyal adherence to all Latter-day Saint ideals may be practiced regardless of one's station in life. Have a ten-minute story of the printing press. (Material may be found in the encyclopedia of the local library.) *Lesson*—Chapter IX. “The Priesthood—An Analysis of Section 107.” Objective: To show that each office of the Priesthood has special duties, and that Priesthood holders are under obligation to fulfil those responsibilities.

**FOURTH NIGHT.** (No regular meeting—Christmas week.) Christmas means a great deal to us as members of this Church. At this time of the year, goodwill and happiness should be spread in greater amounts. We wish to everyone the fullest amount of joy for this festive season, and offer the following poetic thought as a concluding sentiment.

#### A GOOD IDEA

It rather seems that sometimes, when the holidays appear,  
That all we think about is how and where we'll go this year :  
We plan and fuss and fume around, and leave behind our woes,  
And rush off to some foreign port ; and how our laughter flows.

But have you ever pictured those who have to stay behind ;  
The souls who have no play-time, who have just a steady grind  
Of work and toil, and sorrow too—a most unhappy lot—  
And how that you could help them? Listen : Here's a glorious  
thought.

Just pull yourselves together ; fill your souls with joy and cheer ;  
Then go right out and find a few poor folk who're sad and drear :  
And help them to be happy ; show them how to laugh and smile,  
To make them feel 'tis Christmas, to be joyous for a while.

W. D. A.

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GET the thing started. That is one-half of success. The other half is getting the thing done.

## LONDON DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE power of God rested within the assemblies of the Latter-day Saints and their friends during the London District Conference, held in London, on Sunday, October 26th. The Spirit of the Lord was felt throughout the entire services; all present seemed deeply touched by the message given through His servants.

In the morning session, the beautiful pageant, "The Light of Truth," was presented. It thrilled the audience with joy as it depicted clearly and distinctly God's mercy and love in re-establishing His Church in the latter days. The remainder of the morning's program was well received by the audience.

Three brief but splendid talks portraying the histories of the auxiliary organizations of the Church were given in the afternoon meeting by local members. The congregation then separated for Priesthood and Relief Society instructions.

During the evening session, a few of the departing Elders addressed the congregation. President Lund, in giving the main discourse of the Conference, spoke as one with power and authority, and left no doubt in the minds of the audience as to the stand of "Mormonism." The message was well received by the large gathering of Saints and friends.

Attending the Conference were the following Mission officers and missionaries: British Mission President A. William Lund, Sister Josephine B. Lund, President of the British Mission Relief Society, and Elder W. Kenneth Lund, of the British Mission office; and the following missionaries of the London District: President Owen M. Wilson, and Elders Paul B. Larsen, G. Dwight Wakefield, John W. Adams, D. Ross Urie, A. Fenton Smith, Wendell B. Price, Eldon P. Darley, Marion L. Clawson, Allen T. Wells, A. Lee Brown, Gordon L. Allen, Rulon T. Jeffs, Edward E. Drury, Paul H. Morton, LaDell Larson, John S. Russell, Russell E. Peterson, Allan M. Acomb and Myrthus W. Evans; President Steven D. Howells, and Elders Lorin B. Daniels, D. Wynne Thorne, Irving T. Duffin, Rock M. Kirkham, Milton D. Musser, Louis J. Hoggan, Clyde M. Hopkins and Andrew R. Cluff, of the Portsmouth District; Elder Leroy Duncan, of the Norwich District; Elder E. Arnold Goff, of the Leeds District; President Lowell R. Rich (released), of the Newcastle District; Elders William T. Knapton and Bernard P. Brockbank, of the Bristol District; Elders Ralph S. Olpin and J. Alvin Ritchie (released), of the Liverpool District; and Elders James C. Ostergaard, Joseph E. Weidner and George Gerry van Alfen, released missionaries from the Continental missions, returning to their homes.

ELDER PAUL B. LARSEN, District Clerk.

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Courage is the champion of justice and never should contend but in righteous action.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Doings in the Districts:** *Newcastle*—At a baptismal service held on October 11th, in the Sunderland Chapel, two persons were baptized by Elders Virgil J. Smith and Colin M. Edwards. They were confirmed by Elders Clarence H. Taylor and Leo V. Toombs.

*Scottish*—On October 12th, a Primary was organized at Westrigg, Westlothian, Scotland. Sister Margaret Graham was placed in charge. The children and adults are showing great interest in the work. At the second meeting, an attendance of fifty was recorded, many of whom were non-members of the Church.

At a baptismal service held on October 18th at the Gorbals Baths, Glasgow, five persons were baptized by Elders William O. Toluan and Jules Gillette. They were confirmed by President William M. Faulds, and Elders J. Ferrin Gurney, William O. Tolman, DeVon Y. Stewart and Frank S. Campbell.

*Welsh*—Large attendances were noted at each of the illustrated lectures given at Newport and Cardiff on October 24th and 25th, respectively, despite the inclement weather. All listened with great interest. That much good resulted from the lecture in Cardiff was shown in the large number of newly made friends who came out to Sacrament meeting the following evening.

One person was baptized at Varteg on Sunday, October 26th, by Elder William Bailey, and was confirmed a member of the Church by President J. Clyde Sumison.

**Branch Conferences:** Of the Halifax Branch, Leeds District, held on October 5th. Local members ably produced a good program. President Lucian C. Reid, and Elders Fredrick W. Rallison and Angus S. Bodily attended.

Of the Clayton Branch, Leeds District, held on October 12th. The theme, "Gratitude for the Gospel," was splendidly given. President Lucian C. Reid, and Elders Glenn N. Hart and E. Arnold Goff attended.

Of the Loughborough Branch, Nottingham District, held on October 19th. "The Gospel Restored Anew," was the theme of the day. In attendance were President Harold B. Rowell, and Elders Roland G. Manning, Kenner B. Clayton and Rex A. Meeks.

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